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## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/421)*]

### 72/226. Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014, 70/210 of 22 December 2015 and 71/235 of 21 December 2016,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 71/256 of 23 December 2016, entitled "New Urban Agenda", in which it endorsed the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, as contained in the annex to the above-mentioned resolution,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated

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manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

*Noting* that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[3] can contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

*Reaffirming* the role and expertise of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[4] and on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),[5]

*Acknowledging* that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders,

*Reiterating* the importance of the wide participation of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

*Reiterating its recognition* that, over the years, the responsibilities of UN-Habitat have changed considerably in their scope and complexity,

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[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[4] E/2017/61.

[5] A/72/311.

*Recalling* UN-Habitat Governing Council resolution 26/8 of 12 May 2017, entitled "Promoting the effective implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda",[6]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Independent Panel to Assess and Enhance the Effectiveness of UN-Habitat,[7]

*Taking note also* of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at its seventy-first session, on the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in that regard and the summary of the meeting prepared by the President of the General Assembly,[8]

1. *Urges* the United Nations development system to maintain support for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, adopted in Quito in 2016,[9] at all levels;

2. *Reiterates* paragraphs 166, 167 and 168 of the New Urban Agenda, in which, inter alia, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) was called upon to coordinate the preparation of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in close collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, ensuring an inclusive United Nations system-wide coordination process;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting and taking concrete action for the full, effective and timely implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Invites* UN-Habitat, in accordance with its role as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including supporting the implementation and review of the New Urban Agenda, to collaborate with other United Nations programmes and entities, Member States, local authorities and relevant stakeholders, as well as through the mobilization of experts, to contribute to a United Nations system-wide strategy and continue generating evidence-based and practical guidance for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the related dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[10] as well as to further develop the action framework for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in close consultation with Member States, local authorities and stakeholders;

6. *Requests* the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to establish an open-ended Working Group in Nairobi to examine, taking into account relevant work, including of mechanisms under the auspices of UN-Habitat, different options for strengthening Member States' oversight of UN-Habitat, including but not limited to those presented in the New Urban Agenda,[11] or a focused Executive Board, or a universal Urban Assembly, as well as appropriate combinations thereof, and decides that the mandate of this Working Group shall also include consideration of the appropriateness of financial rules and regulations and of personnel, procurement and budgetary matters, and requests the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to make available to Member States findings and recommendations

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[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/72/8), annex.

[7] A/71/1006.

[8] A/72/516.

[9] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[10] Resolution 70/1.

[11] See para. 172 (b) of the New Urban Agenda.

of the Working Group, including any necessary adjustments to existing UN-Habitat governance and administration arising from the options presented, as soon as possible, but no later than 30 June 2018, for the consideration and appropriate action of the General Assembly during the seventy-third session;

7. *Recognizes* the strong collaboration between UN-Habitat and regional and local governments, including through the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities and other platforms, working closely with other United Nations agencies, within their mandates and in accordance with national policies and priorities;

8. *Decides* to continue to promote the normative work of UN-Habitat, and urges UN-Habitat to ensure that its normative and operational activities are balanced, that its normative work guides and is integrated into its operational work and that the experiences gathered in the operational field feed into its normative work, in line with the principles and commitments of the New Urban Agenda and in support of the implementation of the urban dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals;

9. *Recognizes* the need to ensure that UN-Habitat has appropriate capacity to generate, manage and disseminate its evidence-based urbanization knowledge, based on its normative and operational work, building on existing international instruments, assessments and information networks to raise public awareness of critical, as well as emerging, urbanization issues;

10. *Requests* UN-Habitat to hold, within existing formats, a strategic dialogue with Member States to discuss budgetary matters in order to permit the full and effective delivery of its mandate, in particular its normative work, as called for in paragraph 129 of the New Urban Agenda, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources, bearing in mind its role in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;

11. *Invites* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the urban basic services trust fund and other technical cooperation trust funds, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of its mandate;

12. *Reaffirms* that, by readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequalities, promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the national, subnational, local, regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review with a view to improving its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability in supporting the implementation of its mandate;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Malaysia for offering to host the ninth session of the World Urban Forum, in Kuala Lumpur from

7 to 13 February 2018, and reaffirms the role of the World Urban Forum as an advocacy platform for all stakeholders in the fields of human settlements and sustainable urbanization, based on its non-legislative nature;

16. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its collaboration with international development banks and the private sector to ensure coherence of policy support and the alignment of large-scale urban investments with the principles of the New Urban Agenda and to facilitate increased investment in sustainable urbanization, including through, but not limited to, the Multi-Partner Implementation Facility for Sustainable Urban Development, the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Funds;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

*74th plenary meeting*
*20 December 2017*